



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: JON SCHNEIDER**

**PHONE: (202) 225-3826**

### **BISHOP ANNOUNCES \$214K GRANT TO BELLPORT FD TO FUND FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

*Firefighters Attended Grant Workshop Hosted by Congressman*

**Bellport, NY:** Congressman Tim Bishop today announced a \$214,099 federal grant for the Bellport Fire Department. The funding will be given as a one-year grant to help fund fire prevention programs. In February, Bellport firefighters attended a grant workshop run by Bishop. Representatives of the Bellport FD told Bishop that the funds will go toward installing smoke detectors in households throughout the community.

"Firefighters have always put their lives on the line to protect our communities," Bishop said. "Since September 11<sup>th</sup>, we have placed additional burdens on our first responders as they are the first line of defense for our homeland security. I am glad we are able to give the Bellport Fire Department additional resources to face those burdens."

"By funding fire prevention programs in Bellport, we are increasing the security of our community," Bishop added.

The grant was given as part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This year, funding for this program was more than doubled to \$750 million, a significant boost from the \$360 million in funding available the previous year. The funding is available, the current Fiscal Year began on October 1.

Bishop commended the Bellport Fire Department for going the extra mile to help their community.

Representatives from the department drove out to Riverhead for the February 20 grant meeting, despite a snowstorm that night.

"Bellport should be proud to be protected by dedicated firefighters who will go the extra mile," Bishop said. "As we go into the next fiscal year, I will hold more grant workshops to help our firefighters get the resources to protect our families."

The grants are awarded on a competitive basis to the applicants that most closely address the program's priorities and demonstrate financial need. Funding is available for public education and awareness activities, fire codes enforcement activities, fire inspector certifications, purchase and installation of smoke alarms and fire suppression systems, and arson prevention and detection activities.

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